

Amendments to the claims:

1. A wiper blade (10) for windows, particularly of motor vehicles, having an elongated, rubber-elastic wiper strip (14), which can be placed against the window (22) and is connected to an elongated, spring-elastic support element (12) so that their longitudinal axes are parallel, which support element (12) is directly connected to a device for connecting the wiper blade to a driven wiper arm (18), ~~where~~ wherein the support element (12) has two band-like spring strips (28, 30), which are situated in a plane that is disposed in front of the window, essentially parallel to the window, and whose one, lower band surfaces (13) are oriented toward the window and whose adjacent, inner longitudinal edges (48), which are disposed spaced a distance (34) apart from each other, each protrude into a respective longitudinal groove (54, 56, or 106), which grooves are associated with each longitudinal edge and are each open toward a respective longitudinal side of the wiper strip (14), and these two spring strips (36, 38) are connected to each other by at least two crosspieces (36, 38) disposed spaced apart from each other in the longitudinal direction, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein each crosspiece (36, 38) has a middle section (42) which extends spaced a distance (44) apart from the upper band surfaces (11) of the spring strips (28, 30), producing bridge-like crosspieces (36, 38), where the distance (34) between the two longitudinal strips (28, 30) is less than the bridge width (46),

wherein the crosspieces (36, 38) are attached to the upper band surfaces (11) of the two spring strips (28, 30), and wherein the crosspieces (36, 38) are welded to the two spring strips (28, 30), so that the wiper strip from an end of the support element is insertable linearly between the longitudinal edges of the spring strips facing one another.

2. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the crosspieces (36, 38) are embodied as separate components and are affixed to the two spring strips (28, 30).

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the length (78) of the spring strips is greater than the length (76) of the wiper strip (14).

6. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one crosspiece (36, 38) is disposed at each end section of the two associated spring strips (28, 30).

7. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a crosspiece disposed in the middle region of the two associated spring strips (28, 30) is embodied as part (16) of a connecting device for connecting the wiper blade (10) to the wiper arm (18).

8. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one of the two crosspieces (70) disposed at one of the respective end sections of the spring strips (28, 30) is provided with a stop (74), which is connected to its middle section (42) and partially covers the adjacent end (72) of the wiper strip.

9. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the both of the crosspieces (36, 38) disposed at the ends of the support element (12) are provided with a stop (74).

10. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each crosspiece (36, 38) disposed at the end sections of the two spring strips (28, 30) is provided with a covering cap (82) preferably made of plastic.

11. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the thickness (64) of a wall (58) provided between the two longitudinal grooves (54, 56) in the wiper strip (14) is smaller than the distance (34) between the adjacent longitudinal edges (32) of the two associated spring strips (28, 30).

12. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wiper strip (100), which has a uniform cross section over its longitudinal span, has a strip-like wiper lip (101), which can be placed against the window and which, by means of a narrow intermediary strip (102) that is formed by groove-like constrictions (106) on opposite sides, is connected to a covering strip (104) secured to the support element (12), and in that each of the two adjacent inner longitudinal edges (32) of the spring strips (28, 30) is disposed in one of the two groove-like constrictions (106) of the wiper strip (100).

13. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the lateral defining surfaces (108, 110) of the groove-like constrictions (106) diverge from the intermediary strip (102) to the longitudinal sides of the wiper strip.

14. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one lateral defining surface (110) of the groove-like constrictions (106) has a spherical curvature, viewed in cross section.

15. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein both lateral defining surfaces (108, 110) of the groove-like constrictions (106) have a spherical curvature, viewed in cross section.

16. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wiper lip (101) is provided with a completely closed longitudinal conduit (118).

17. (currently amended) The wiper blade according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each spring strip (28, 30), at least with a central edge strip, protrudes from its groove-like constriction (106).

18. (new) A wiper blade (10) for windows of motor vehicles, comprising:

an elongated, rubber-elastic wiper strip (14), which can be placed against the window (22) and is connected to an elongated, spring-elastic support element (12) so that their longitudinal axes are parallel, which support element (12) is directly connected to a device for connecting the wiper blade to a driven wiper arm (18), wherein the support element (12) has two band-like spring strips (28, 30), which are situated in a plane that is disposed in front of the window, essentially parallel to the window, and whose one, lower band surfaces (13) are oriented toward the window and whose adjacent, inner longitudinal edges (48), which are disposed spaced a distance (34) apart from each other, each protrude into a respective longitudinal groove (54, 56, or 106), which grooves are associated with each longitudinal edge and are each open toward a respective longitudinal side of the wiper strip (14), and these two spring strips (36, 38) are connected to each other by at least two crosspieces (36, 38) disposed spaced apart from each other in the longitudinal direction, wherein each crosspiece (36, 38) has a middle section (42) which extends spaced a distance (44) apart from

the upper band surfaces (11) of the spring strips (28, 30), producing bridge-like crosspieces (36, 38), where the distance (34) between the two longitudinal strips (28, 30) is less than the bridge width (46),

wherein the wiper strip (100), which has a uniform cross section over its longitudinal span, has a strip-like wiper lip (101), which can be placed against the window and which, by means of a narrow intermediary strip (102) that is formed by groove-like constrictions (106) on opposite sides, is connected to a covering strip (104) secured to the support element (12), and in that each of the two adjacent inner longitudinal edges (32) of the spring strips (28, 30) is disposed in one of groove-like constrictions (106) of the wiper strip (100),

wherein the lateral defining surfaces (108, 110) of the groove-like constrictions (106) diverge from the intermediary strip (102) to the longitudinal sides of the wiper strip, and

wherein both lateral defining surfaces (108, 110) of the groove-like constrictions (106) have a spherical curvature, viewed in cross section.